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AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR

WEEKLY NEWS SERVICE

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In peace or war, in council or in fight,
To speak his mind is every free man's right. —Pope.

WHOLE NO. 1169 | WILLIAM GREEN, President | WASHINGTON, D. C., SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 1933 | FRANK MORRISON, Secretary | VOL. 23, NO. 27

Editorials

"Outside Interference" in Labor Controversies

In their statements against trade union collective bargaining the executives of antiunion corporations, of which the United States Steel Corporation is typical, have stressed the terrible menace which they visioned in "outside" organizations like national trade unions "interfering" with the wages, hours and other work conditions which the executives of the corporations see fit to impose upon their employes.

These questions, they said, should be settled by the strong and united authority of the corporation on the one hand and the weak and disunited employes on the other. There must be no "outside" interference.

Hypocrisy in the extreme, organized labor replied. Now we have an illustration of that hypocrisy.

In Washington, D. C., the employes of the Crittal Manufacturing Company, operating under the blanket NRA code for the steel window sash industry, struck for a 20 per cent increase in piecework wages. Under the code the 48-hour week was reduced to 36 hours, with a 10 per cent increase in the hourly wage, which resulted in lower weekly wages.

The strikers said they could not live on the reduced pay and walked out with their demand for an increase. They knew that the minimum wage was fixed by the code, but they believed that maximum wages were fixed by the management. Not so. According to the press report of the controversy, Charles C. Anthony, manager of the Crittal concern, told the employes he did not have the authority to grant their demand. Why? Because wages for the employes of every member of the trade association of the steel window sash industry, a national organization of employers, are fixed by the officials of the association, and the association at the time of the controversy was holding a meeting in Cleveland.

Here is "outside interference" with a vengeance. The manager of a steel window sash company in Washington cannot increase the wages of his employes without the consent of the **national** trade association for the industry!

The natural corollary to this condition is a **national** organization of the employes of the industry in a national trade union to bargain collectively with the national trade association of the employers. This is what the American Federation of Labor demands. This is what the American Federation of Labor is endeavoring to secure. This is what the National Industrial Recovery Act approves when it declares that employes shall have the right to organize in bona fide unions without interference from employers and use their unions for collective bargaining. And this is what antiunion employers compactly organized in national trade associations themselves, sponsored by the antiunion Chamber of Commerce of the United States and the antiunion National Association of Manufacturers, are making strenuous efforts to prevent.

They shall not succeed. "Labor Omnia Vincit"—Labor Conquers All—is the motto of the A. F. of L. In this fight for the right to organize, the motto shall become a living reality throughout the Republic despite the determination of antiunion employers to turn the workers into voiceless and soulless industrial serfs responding like robots to the will of those who own and control American industry.

Speeding Up the Workers

An editorial writer of the New York Times says too many trade unionists have set up standards "which mitigate against the sections of the industry in which they find their livelihood" and asks if they will continue to insist on "limited production" or if they will assist the national recovery by dropping the plan of "making work," which he defines as requiring that things be done needlessly in conformity with the rules which the workers make themselves. "In this and many other matters," he says, "there is ample reason for employers and the public to appeal to labor unions."

This editorial explosion of the New York Times is a restatement of the silly old charge that members of trade unions either by loafing on the job or other devices resort to wholesale limitation of the amount of work done per unit of time.

The charge is baseless. "A fair day's work for a fair day's pay" has been the slogan of organized labor throughout the United States from the inception of the labor movement. This does not mean, of course, that trade unionists subject themselves to the exploitation of speed-up men and destroy their bodies and minds by driving themselves or permitting themselves to be driven to the performance of inordinate tasks.

The body of the worker is a human machine which must be preserved in good condition for many years to insure the worker a living from the sale of the use of the labor power which it generates. "A fair day's work for a fair day's pay" accomplishes this preservation, and organized labor will not permit either editorial taskmasters for the employers or the employers themselves to use the NRA as a speed-up scheme to wear the workers out in the shortest possible time and then throw them into the army of the so-called "inefficient" with the almshouse as their home.

Wages and the Cost of Living

Perhaps the outstanding anomaly of the recovery program is the penalty of static wages imposed in many instances upon the workers in connection with shorter hours by the persistent price boosting applied by manufacturers and merchants who own and control the machinery for manufacturing and marketing the necessities of life, commonly called a living.

This anomaly was well illustrated in certain cotton mills about the time the 40-hour maximum work week was put into effect.

In one Southern community thousands of textile workers struck for a 25 per cent wage increase. The mill superintendents refused to grant the increase, but reduced the length of the work week to 40 hours at the same weekly wage the workers had been paid for 55 hours.

This was a reduction of well over one-quarter in working time, a very remarkable victory for the mill workers and a distinct advantage for them and their families. But with their weekly wages fixed and the cost of living going up, their real wages expressed in purchasing power were decreased and their living standards consequently lowered. This reduction in wages and purchasing power is widespread. It is wholly at variance with the underlying principle of the National Industrial Recovery Act.

Unless speedy machinery is developed to secure the automatic increase in all wages equal to and even exceeding the boosts in living costs decreed by manufacturers and merchants, there will be many justifiable protests resorted to by labor to adjudicate a grievance which those who own and control industry could prevent if they had enough social vision to justify their continuance as business executives.

Mortgage Foreclosure Sharks

Theorists continue to harp about the virtues of American individualism, but the profiteering application of the theory seems to make inexorable the mobilization of organized society to protect the masses from the grasp of Shylocks in nearly every line of business individualism at least.

The truth of this was emphatically illustrated recently in the action of Philadelphia mortgage sharks who thought to profit by throwing into the streets 157 necessitous home owners and taking over their humble properties under foreclosure proceedings.

The Court of Common Pleas stepped into the case and ordered the postponement of scheduled sheriff sales for a number of weeks to give hard-pressed debtors time to appeal to the Home Owners Loan Corporation, established by the Federal Government for aid in meeting the exactions of the conscienceless mortgage owners.

Curbing unregulated individualism in all of those activities where groups of profit-takers have and exercise the power to exploit and oppress thrifty citizens who find themselves, through no fault of their own, in the clutch of usurers appears to be one of the inevitable developments of the present era.

Labor's Rights Under Recovery Act Are Stressed by Morrison

American Federation of Labor Had Section Seven Placed in the Law—A. F. of L. Representatives Endeavor to Protect Workers' Rights in the Codes—Company Unions Condemned—Roosevelt's Recovery Program Endorsed—Trade Unions Are Labor's Major Protection.

Pittsburgh, Pa.—The pronounced importance of the labor section of the National Industrial Recovery Act to the workers, the influence of the American Federation of Labor in having Congress incorporate the labor section in the law, the continued efforts of the A. F. of L. to see that the industrial codes established under the NRA afford adequate protection to working men and women in their wages, hours and working conditions, and the unqualified support of organized labor to President Roosevelt's recovery program, were emphasized by Frank Morrison, secretary of the Federation, in his Labor Day address here under the auspices of the Pittsburgh Central Labor Union.

Mr. Morrison said, in part:

"When the provisions of the National Recovery Act were being drafted representatives of the American Federation of Labor saw to it that a clause was incorporated known as Section 7 giving the workers the right to join a union of their choosing and to make their own selection of representatives to carry on negotiations with their employers. Without the recognition and enforcement of this right in industry political liberty bestows empty privileges upon workers.

Abuses Heaped on Labor

"There is little wonder that men and women who cannot exercise the right to work under conditions of employment that will enable them to enjoy some of the fruits of their labor and of the progress and invention of our times, should call into question the advantages of a government which apparently has shown little interest in the lot of workers who are being submerged in the industrial maelstrom produced by business mismanagement and chicanery. Their inability to right wrongs heaped upon them has subjected them to tyrannical abuses as brutal in their effects as any political oppression of the past or present.

"Workers in Pennsylvania who have experienced and witnessed the effrontery and brutality of the coal and iron police surely cannot be impressed with political rights that can be so brazenly set aside by men hired by corporations who use police powers to prevent organization of their employes in trade unions, and suppress the exercise of the rights of free speech and of free assemblage.

Labor and the Codes

"The National Recovery Act to succeed must have the honest and generous cooperation of employers and workers. The officers of the American Federation of Labor and of our affiliated organizations are giving attention to the provisions of codes as they affect conditions of employment.

"Our representatives are exercising their best influence in the hearings to establish standards of labor on the basis of minimum rates of pay and maximum hours of labor that will bring about a readjustment of working conditions so that unemployed workers may be restored to industry. The changes must be drastic to turn the tide and make the stimulation and recovery of industry permanent and progressive.

Menace of Company Unions

"The efforts of the representatives of organized labor are being opposed by the same forces that have always stood as a bulwark against the democratic representation of workers in industry. Corporations that have always refused to recognize trade unions insist that they shall be allowed to continue methods devised by themselves to deal with labor. Their insistence upon their so-called employe representation plans is proof of the complete control in determining conditions of labor which they exercise through these methods.

Chiselling Away Labor's Rights

"One group of employers insisted that Section 7 of the Recovery Act which provides that workers have the right to join a union and to be represented by persons of their own choosing, should be modified by adding, 'that the members of this code may exercise their right to hire, discharge, promote, or demote employes on the basis of individual merit without regard to their membership or non-membership in any organization.'

"This sounds very reasonable and broadminded, but in essence it will enable these employers to discharge workers because of membership in or activities in the interest of trade union organization.

"The American Federation of Labor does not hold that an employer must retain in his employ an incompetent worker or one neglectful of his duty; we did not depart from this principle when we opposed this modification, but we know from experience how unfriendly employers through various processes disguise the discharge of union members and distort legal phraseology to obstruct and defeat the free association of employes in a trade union.

Living Standards Protected

"As to the phrase 'membership or non-membership in any organization,' representatives of the trade union movement are using their best efforts and influence to protect the standards of labor that have been built up by the struggle and sacrifice of trade unionists, and in the drafting and enforcement of the provisions of the codes we will defend the right of workers to join a union of their own choosing and to be represented by persons of their own selection against any source of attack whether it may come from the ranks of employers or from workers.

Labor Backs Recovery Act

"The great labor movement is wholeheartedly in favor of the strict enforcement of the National Industrial Recovery Act. It means the reduction in the daily hours of work and a shorter work week. It will mean the elimination of child labor and wipe out sweatshop conditions in our country. It means more than that. It will place back at work our millions of unemployed. Representatives of great corporations have endeavored to establish 'company unions' so that these corporations may deal with themselves in determining hours, wages and conditions of labor that will prevail in their establishments.

Union Absolutely Necessary

"Wage workers must bear in mind that to continue improved conditions of employment secured through the National Industrial Recovery Act beyond the terms of the act will depend upon their power through organization to prevent representatives of great industries resuming unfair practices of competition, and the imposition of conditions of labor which produce unemployment and destroy buying power. Workers must organize so that when the term of the Recovery Act expires the trade unions with the assistance of fair employers will be in a position to prevent the breaking down of the maximum hours and the minimum wage standards established through this act.

"I am sure that the great work that is being carried on by President Roosevelt will bring about understanding and produce results that will prove of lasting benefit to the people of our country."

NAVY YARD EMPLOYES WIN PAY CUT PROTEST

Roosevelt Makes Fund Available to Rescind Secretary Swanson's 16 Per Cent Wage Reduction Order for 40-Hour Week.

Washington.—As a result of taking their grievances to President Roosevelt the 16 per cent pay cut recently imposed by Secretary of the Navy Swanson on the civilian employes of the navy yards throughout the United States in connection with the 40-hour week was rescinded.

Swanson's Excuse

The navy yard workers were employed 44 hours a week. They asked for a 40-hour week without reduction in pay. Secretary Swanson gave them the 40 hours, but cut their wages proportionately, which amounted to a 16⅔ per cent reduction in addition to the 15 per cent imposed by the Economy Act, making a total wage slash of nearly one-third in the pay envelopes of the employes.

Secretary Swanson said the cut was necessitated by the Director of the Bureau of the Budget holding up as an economy measure $55,000,000 of the Navy's regular appropriation for the current fiscal year.

Employes Appeal to Roosevelt

Employes of the Washington Navy Yard vigorously attacked the wage cut at a mass meeting and enthusiastically adopted a resolution condemning the action of the Navy Department in cutting wages for the shorter work week as a flagrant violation of the principles of the National Industrial Recovery Act and went over the head of Secretary Swanson with a direct petition to President Roosevelt.

Pay-Cut Order Scrapped

John P. Frey, secretary-treasurer of the Metal Trades Department of the American Federation of Labor, and J. A. Franklin, president, International Brotherhood of Boiler Makers, Iron Ship Builders and Helpers of America, placed the matter before the President, who issued an executive order releasing $5,000,000 additional for navy expenditures by the Bureau of the Budget.

When the additional fund was released Secretary Swanson rescinded his original 40-hour week order with its 16 per cent pay cut and issued a new order under which one week the employes of the Washington Navy Yard will work five and one-half days (44 hours) with 48 hours' pay, getting off Saturday afternoon. The next week they will work four and one-half days (36 hours) with 40 hours' pay, and so on alternately. The navy officials explained that this would average 40 hours of work and 44 hours' pay.

The same rule for per diem employes on full time applies in all other navy yards. Under this plan they will work five and one-half days, namely 44 hours work, with 48 hours pay one week, and four and one-half days, namely 36 hours work, with 40 hours pay the alternate week. Employes ordered to work on Monday of the short week shall be required to take equivalent time off without pay before the following Saturday.

UNION MEMBERSHIP JUMPS FORWARD IN GRAND RAPIDS

Grand Rapids, Mich.—The drive for increased membership in various Grand Rapids crafts and for the organization of new unions continues unabated at the Labor Temple, under the auspices of the organization committee of the Grand Rapids Federation of Labor. The enthusiasm for trade union principles extends to all sections of the labor movement and is quite marked among the unorganized workers.

President George B. Harris, of the International Association of Wood Carvers, organized a strong local union of carvers here after he explained the unfair practices employed by contractors doing construction work for the Federal Government and outlined how this work was sublet to other contractors who reduced the wage scales to minimums decidedly unfair. He pointed out that the only way the workers could be protected from this sort of injustice was by effective organization. Arrangements have been made for a mass meeting of the furniture workers at which it is expected there will be a number of new locals organized.

The drive for the Cleaners' and Dyers' Union is meeting with tangible success. The Local Pressmen's and Assistants' Union has obtained a number of union members resulting from the unusually active work of the organization committee.

A joint meeting of representatives of the Allied Building Trades and the Building Trades Council discussed at length the building trades code and a similar meeting was held by representatives of the Painters' Union and the Master Painters' organization.

The Machinists, who have been unorganized for a number of years, are actively getting together under the old charter, and the Truck Drivers have announced many applications for membership.

AFL COUNCIL CONSIDERS GRAVE LABOR QUESTIONS

Labor Provisions of Recovery Act and Codes, Job Insurance, Anti-injunction and Workmen's Compensation Laws, Federal Child Labor Amendment, Among Matters Discussed by A. F. of L. Officials for Inclusion in Annual Report to the Convention—Plans for Gompers Memorial Unveiling.

Washington.—The Fall meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor convened in Washington with a schedule covering a large number of important questions.

The Council is composed of the following members: William Green, Frank Morrison, Martin F. Ryan, Frank Duffy, T. A. Rickert, Matthew Woll, James Wilson, John Coefield, Arthur O. Wharton, Joseph N. Weber and G. M. Bugniazet.

Originally called a month ago, the postponement of the meeting was made necessary by the tremendous amount of work imposed upon President Green, Secretary Morrison, and other members of the council by the fair competition codes which employers' organizations submitted to the National Recovery Administration and the forward sweep of unionization which the A. F. of L. is carrying on throughout the United States.

Labor Sections of Codes

Every code has a section containing rules regarding wages, hours, and other working conditions. In practically all of them the hours proposed by employers are too long and the wages too low to meet the requirement of reemployment and increased buying power, which are the keynotes of the National Recovery Act.

Organized labor, with President Green in the vanguard, has had to fight the labor section of every code to secure shorter hours for the workers, and therefore more jobs for the idle, as well as the increased pay and larger purchasing ability so necessary to the recovery program.

In addition, President Roosevelt appointed Mr. Green a member of the National Labor Board to adjust disputes arising from differing interpretations of the industrial codes and the President's blanket agreement for immediately raising wages and cutting hours.

Annual Report to Convention

There has been no let-up in the activities of the members of the Council in connection with the codes or in the duties entailed by the National Arbitration Board, and the work of Secretary Morrison's office has largely increased, due to the growing amount of organization work. But despite these facts the meeting of the Council became imperative to prepare for the annual convention of the Federation which convenes in Washington on October 2.

The most important work of the Council is the preparation of their annual report, which covers the entire gamut of the workers' struggles to improve their economic, social, and political status during the year, the activities beginning alphabetically with arbitration and ending with yellow dog contract.

Samuel Gompers Memorial

One of the special matters before the Council is the arrangements for the dedication and unveiling of the memorial to the late Samuel Gompers. President Roosevelt will be invited to participate in the unveiling ceremonies, which will take place on Saturday, October 7. Thousands of visitors, members of organized labor and their friends, will throng Washington for the event.

Workers' Rights Under Codes

"The Council will give special consideration to the National Recovery Act and to the development of industrial codes of fair practice applicable to all lines of industry," declared President William Green when the Council convened.

"Reports upon the organizing campaign which is being carried on in all cities and towns throughout the nation will be received and considered. Future plans for the advancement of these organizing campaigns will be considered and adopted. It is the purpose and intention of the Executive Council to accord to the workers everywhere the widest opportunity to organize and to do so voluntarily and of their own free will. The exercise of this right is guaranteed the workers under Section 7 of the Industrial Recovery Act."

Unemployment Insurance Legislation

The Council will also report on what appears to approach a conspiracy by State Legislatures to refuse to enact unemployment insurance measures despite the indisputable fact that we still have over ten million jobless adults, a large proportion of whom are dependent upon private and public charity, often of a degrading sort, for the support of themselves and their dependents.

State Anti-injunction Laws

In the enactment of anti-injunction laws modeled after the Norris-LaGuardia Federal Law so few State Legislatures have responded favorably to this reform that the Council will consider methods to speed up this necessary legislation to protect all workers against State injunction judges with their yellow dog contracts.

Methods for mobilizing the forces of organized labor and progressive citizens generally to influence backward States to adopt the Federal Child Labor Amendment and perfect and extend State workmen's compensation laws will also be considered by the Council and recommended to the convention.

Altogether the Fall meeting of the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor is one of the most important in its history.

63,471 Men and 66,384 Women Were Sent to Prison in 1932

Washington.—According to a compilation made by the Department of Commerce 5,012 fewer male prisoners were received at Federal and State prisons and reformatories in 1932 than in 1931. The figures are 63,471 and 68,483, respectively.

Women, apparently, were the bad actors last year, as the number of them receiving prison sentences totaled 66,384, against 69,483, leaving a net decrease of only 3,099. During 1932 there were 26,518 paroles and 35,430 sentences expired, a total of 71,014 released from the State and Federal prisons.

A. F. of L. Demands Observance Of NRA Union Clause, Green Says

Discharging Workers for Union Membership or Activities Is Illegal—Courts Will Be Asked to Impose Penalties on Employers Who Violate Labor's Rights—Million New Members Enroll in Trade Unions—Labor Gives Unqualified Support to Roosevelt.

Akron, Ohio.—The determination of the American Federation of Labor to make a living reality of the workers' right to organize and bargain collectively guaranteed by the National Industrial Recovery Act, the vigorous prosecution of employers who discriminate against workers who organize or who are discharged because they organize, and wholehearted support of President Roosevelt's recovery program were strongly expressed by William Green, president of the Federation, in his Labor Day address here under the auspices of the Akron Central Labor Union.

"Through the enactment of the National Recovery Act the door of opportunity for industry and labor was opened," Mr. Green said. "In all fairness industry could not expect to appropriate to itself the benefits of the National Recovery Act and deny to labor the benefits which were accorded to it.

Labor Is Organizing

"If industry is permitted to organize and control business labor likewise must be permitted to organize for mutual helpfulness and protection. And labor is doing that very thing. The spirit of organization has been aroused and the workers in all lines of industry are exercising the right conferred upon them in Section 7 (a) of the National Recovery Act to organize. They are complying fully with the law when they do this.

"They must be permitted to organize without interference or restraint. Their right to organize must not be denied.

Court Penalties for Violations of Labor's Rights

"Section 7 (a) of the National Recovery Act, which provides that working people may organize, must be included in every industrial code of fair practice. Through such inclusion it becomes a part of the law legally binding upon employers of labor.

"If an employer discriminates against employes who organize or discharges them because they organize he is guilty of violation of the code and is subject, when convicted, to the imposition of penalties provided for in the National Recovery Act.

"It is the purpose and intent of the American Federation of Labor to protect workers in the exercise of their right to organize and to invoke punishment, through proper court procedure, upon those employers who are charged with and found guilty of violating the law.

"The opposition of the employers to the exercise of the workers of their right to organize into trade unions is as poorly based as might be the opposition of an individual employer against compliance with industrial codes of fair practice.

Stop Fighting Unions

"Because labor has been compelled to fight for recognition of its right to organize and to adopt policies designed to protect workers in the exercise of that right, employers in many instances have assumed that labor organizations were a menace to industrial welfare and to society as well. This is an erroneous point of view.

"In my opinion the time has arrived when industrial management should stop fighting the organization of labor and, in the spirit and letter of the National Recovery Act, give it an opportunity to collectively cooperate in making real, vital and beneficial all the provisions of the National Recovery Act. Labor must be made conscious of its right. It must understand that under the provisions of Section 7 (a) of the National Recovery Act it has a right to organize.

Charter of Economic Freedom

"The workers of the city of Akron, as well as in all other industrial centers, have been granted a new charter of economic freedom. They need fear no longer the threat of discharge, of persecution and discrimination because they dare to join a labor union. Their rights in this respect have been clearly defined and it remains with them to decide if they wish to unite and cooperate as an organized unit with employers of labor, to bargain collectively and to be members of independent, democratically controlled trade unions.

Labor Representation on NRA Boards

"In the administration of the industrial codes of fair practice further recognition will be given to labor in the appointments of administrative boards, clothed with authority to supervise the enforcement of said codes. Labor will be represented on these boards and thus the workers will be further assured of the determination of the Government to require all concerned to comply with the provisions of all industrial codes of fair practice.

"Labor has cooperated fully in the formation and completion of industrial codes of fair practice. Through the Labor Advisory Board, the National Labor Board and other governmental agencies labor has served and has given full support to the administrators of the National Recovery Act."

Million New Members

Expressing enthusiasm over the fact that within the last few months "hundreds of thousands of unorganized workers have become affiliated with the American Federation of Labor," the number probably reaching more than a million new members, Mr. Green outlined the tremendous amount of work performed by organized labor's representatives as advocates and defenders of the workers, organized and unorganized, in connection with the development of the industrial codes under the NRA at Washington. "Trained and efficient in this work," he said, "they fight valiantly for the acceptance and establishment of rates of pay and hours of labor which will mean to the workers of the nation decent living standards, the enjoyment of leisure and the creation of work opportunities. Through the operation of the National Recovery Act these faithful, loyal representatives of labor are accorded new and broader opportunity to render service both now and in the future, in the advancement and promotion of the economic and social welfare of the workers of the nation.

Complete Support for Roosevelt

"On this historic occasion," Mr. Green concluded, "amid the festivities of Labor Day our thoughts turn to the nation's leader, whose energetic action in support of the Industrial Recovery Act, public relief projects and economic measures designed to overcome unemployment has inspired confidence and strengthened our faith in our Government. President Roosevelt has proven himself to be a great economist, a constructive and resourceful leader and a courageous statesman. At the moment he is calling for the undivided support of the people in the great drive which is being made in the interests of economic recovery. We must strengthen his hands and give him that full measure of support which he deserves.

"Let us here resolve that all of us, coming from all walks of life, will do our part by giving to the President of the United States a full measure of support in his efforts to bring comfort and happiness to our people."

Steel Employes Desert Company Union; Flock to Iron, Steel and Tin Workers

Pittsburgh.—The love of iron and steel workers for "company unions," "shop councils" and other yellow dog offspring, as proclaimed by the iron masters at the Washington NRA hearings and elsewhere, is beautifully exemplified on the front page of the Amalgamated Journal, official publication of the Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers.

Here are spread the names of 47 new lodges of the Amalgamated recently organized by workers who so loved their employer-controlled unions that they renounced them as soon as they found they could be shielded from reprisals by their bosses under the sheltering wings of the "Blue Eagle."

The employes of 22 steel, iron and tinplate companies, including United States Steel Corporation, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, Republic, and others of the big fellows, located in 53 towns and every important steel and iron center in the United States, are represented in this list.

COMPANY UNIONS FADING FROM LIFE IN COLORADO

Denver, Colo.—Coincident with the state-wide organizing campaign conducted by the Colorado State Federation of Labor, there comes the glad news that the company union monstrosity is passing to its well-deserved graveyard in this State, according to John E. Gross, secretary of the Federation.

The company union movement in Colorado was started by John D. Rockefeller, Jr., during the prolonged strike in 1913 of the union coal miners employed by the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, whose largest stockholder was Mr. Rockefeller.

In his attempt to defeat the strike and kill the United Mine Workers of America, Mr. Rockefeller employed W. L. Mackenzie, former Minister of Labor of Canada, who set up the long since notorious "employes' representation plan."

In an address before the Denver trades and labor assembly on the progress of the state-wide organizing campaign Mr. Gross declared that company unions, which he described as fake organizations set up by employers to prevent trade union organization are collapsing like punctured balloons. "In some sections of the state, especially in railroad towns where these fake organizations have been in existence for many years," he declared, "company unions are completely repudiated by the employes and the formation of bona fide unions is progressing rapidly."

He said the Colorado & Southern employes have completely dissolved their company union and company organizations in cities such as Salida and Alamosa have been replaced by the regular shop craft unions. The Rio Grande railroad, he added, is furnishing the strongest opposition among the railroads to the breaking down of their company union plan.

Peterson Visions Anti-Labor Men Scuttling Recovery Act

Butte, Mont.—Frank J. Peterson, general organizer of the United Association of Plumbers and Steam Fitters of the United States and Canada, in an address before the Silver Bow Trades and Labor Council here declared that antilabor men are being appointed to administer the National Industrial Recovery Act throughout the country. He stated that friends of labor are in a very small minority on local administrative committees and that employers throughout the country are chiseling the Recovery Act right and left. To them the Blue Eagle, he said, is merely a cheap form of advertising which gives them an excuse to raise prices.

Mr. Peterson declared that the success of the act will depend upon the solidarity of the labor movement. The workers, he added, will have to struggle for every concession gained and follow this with a persistent fight to make the concessions permanent.

Cedar Rapids Trade Unions Oppose Cut-Rate Taxi Fares

Cedar Rapids, Iowa.—In their campaign to protect the members of the Street Railway Men's Union the Cedar Rapids Federation of Labor adopted a resolution protesting against the cut-rate taxi fares recently put in effect by the Silver Top Taxi Company. Under the cut rate the company carries passengers to any part of the city for 15 cents, which is a trifle more than the street car fare. The organized labor movement believes that if the cut-rate taxi fares are allowed to continue it will compel the street railway company, which has been operating at a considerable loss for some time, to either materially reduce its service or suspend operations, with serious results to 55 members of the Street Railway Men's Union.

The Federation of Labor urged the City Council to take whatever action may be necessary to compel the owners of taxi cabs to abandon their cut-throat competition.